स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे) (क) हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन, प्रयाग द्वारा प्रदान की जाने वाली "आयुर्वेदरत्न" और "वैद्य विशारद" अर्हताओं को भारतीय चिकित्सा केन्द्रीय परिषद अधिनियम, 1970 की दूसरी अनुसूची में शामिल किया गया था और केवल 1931 से 1967 तक की अवधि के लिए मान्यता प्रदान की गई थी।

(ख) और (ग) इन अर्हताओं को 1967 के बाद भी मान्य रखने के प्रश्न पर भारतीय चिकित्सा केन्द्रीय परिषद द्वारा 1983 में विचार किया गया था। परिषद ने पाया कि न तो पाठ्यक्रम के लिए कोई मानक थे और न ही उम्मीदवारों के लिए कोई नियमित संस्थागत प्रशिक्षण की व्यवस्था थी। यही नहीं, यह पाठ्यक्रम प्राइवेट उम्मीदवारों के लिए भी खुला हुआ था और परीक्षाएं प्राइवेट केन्द्रों में आयोजित की जाती थी।

इस बात को देखते हुए परिषद ने यथास्थिति बनाए रखने का निर्णय लिया।

Appointment of Labour Welfare Inspectors in D.T.C.

2951. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Labour Welfare Inspectors were appointed in 1984 by Delhi Transport Corporation on ad hoc basis had not been confirmed while Labour Welfare Officers were appointed and confirmed Officers given promotion in contravention of Government rules;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof;

(c) whether in their old post, Labour Welfare Inspectors then have got promotion by now if they could have been regularised; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not confirming them so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The posts of Labour Welfare Inspectors were created on *ad-hoc* basis and accordingly the appointment of the individuals was also on *ad-hoc* basis, whereas in case of Labour Welfare Officers, the posts were in existence and the vacancies were filled up by appointing individuals on officiating/probation basis, and on completion of their probation/officiating period, they were confirmed in the said post, in accordance with the Rules.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Since there was ban on creation of new posts on regular basis, the posts of Labour Welfare Inspectors were created only on short term basis. This ban on creating posts still continues.

Navodaya Schools in Orissa

2952. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Navodaya Schools functioning in Orissa at present and the total number of students reading in the said schools;

(b) whether Government propose to open more Navodaya Schools in Orissa during 1988-89; and

(c) if so, what are the names of places where these schools are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Eleven Navodaya Vidyalayas are at present functioning in Orissa. The total number of students studying in five Navodaya Vidyalayas started in 1986-87 is 351. The same information for eleven Vidyalayas for the year

1987-88 is yet to be collected. However 800 students have been selected for admission into the eleven Vidyalayas in the year 1987-88.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. One more Navodaya Vidyalayas has been sanctioned to be established during 1988-89 in Orissa at village Salabani in Maayourbhanj district

Cigarette with less cancer risk

2953. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that safer cigarettes developed by some of the large cigarette manufacturers with reduced cancer risks have not been introduced in the market and if so, reasons therefor; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the quality of tobacco used in cigarettes in India even in the foreign brand names is of far inferior quality than used in western countries and thus liable to cause more diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) There is no safe cigarette. Cigarette and bidi smoking, irrespective of tar and nicotine content, is injurious to health.

(b) The available data indicate that tar and nicotine contents of Indian cigarettes and bidi are higher than that used in Western countries.

'Bandh' notice by Commerical Transport Operators

2954. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seven lakh Commercial Transport Operators have decided to go on an indefinite country-wide Bandh beginning 31st March, 1988, if their demands are not conceded by Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the grievances of the Transport Operators and what necessary action is being taken by Government to give protection to the consumer transporters to avoid the proposed Bandh-call?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) A press release has been received from Secretary General, All India Motor Transport Congress, New Delhi stating that *Commercial road transport vehicles* will be withdrawn from roads from the mid-night of 31st March, 1988. The demands of the Transport Operators are import of tyres under Open General Licence, roll-back of tyre prices and making mandatory the embossing of retail selling price on tyres/tubes, (ii) rationalisation and uniformity of price of High Speed Diesel in the Country (iii) reduction of cumulative burden of Central and State duties & taxes on road transport. The demands have been brought to the notice of Ministry of Industry and Finance which are the concerned Ministries with regard to pricing and taxation in tyre Industry.

"फ्रीडम फ्रंट ओनली टु इम्प्रेस राजीव" शीर्षक से समाचार

2955. **श्री रशीद मसूद** : क्या **मानव संसाधन विकास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 1 मार्च, 1988 के इंडियन एक्सप्रेस, में "फ्रीडम फ्रन्ट ओनली टु इम्प्रेस राजीव" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ;